

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 10-12 and 21 are pending. Claims 10-12 and 21 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

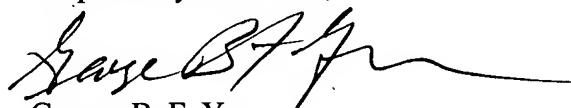
Claims 10-12 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 for allegedly being obvious in view of Shoroff et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,023,744) and Blumenau (U.S. Pat. No. 6,631,442).

An interview with the examiner was conducted on February 8, 2006, for which the undersigned is appreciative. A discussion of the reference was made and proposed claim amendments were discussed. The examiner indicated that the proposed amendment clarified the distinctions between the cited art and the recited claims. The claims have been amended accordingly.

The amended claims recite in part, for example claim 10, detecting that an amount free space of the storage system has become less than a predetermined amount. Shoroff describes whether there is capacity in a target file. *Column 10, 50-54*. As amended, the claims more clearly recite the "free space of the storage system" as compared to Shoroff's capacity of a target file. It is earnestly submitted that this clarification renders the pending claims patentable over the art of record.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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